

Various Matters.

The Slave Trade - Liberia.

The Rev. Dr. Humphrey, late President of Amherst College, delivered a lecture on Sunday week, in New York, upon the great subject of African Colonization, from which we gather the fact that the new Republic of Liberia is governed entirely by colored men—no white holds any office, civil or military, in the government. There are, within the bounds of the republic, twenty-three churches, and one-third of the entire population are communicants. Two newspapers are published at Liberia. The laws compel the parents to send their children to school between the age of five and twelve. The population is about 10,000, of which near one-half are emancipated slaves. During the course of his lecture, Dr. H. stated the following facts relative to the slave trade.—O. S. Journal.

Sir Thomas Buxton, the Willerforce of the present age, has ascertained, by careful investigation, that while thirty years ago, 80,000 slaves were annually landed on the American continent, there are now 200,000, and the losses on the passage equal to 145 per cent; so that the whole number abstracted from Africa annually, cannot be less than half a million—as many of her children, thus yearly torn from her soil, as are contained in the cities of New York and Boston; and in forty years, an amount equal to the whole of the United States. These are literally packed, like so many herring, without room, during the whole passage, to sit upright or stand, and only eleven inches in width allowed to each.

Sir Thomas Buxton shows that no trade can be suppressed by legislation, whose profits equal 30 per cent; and the Slave trade actually equal 150 per cent. But, he said, even in this state of things, Colonization affords the highest ground to expect, that this dreadful traffic will be abolished.

The Colony of Liberia has already driven the trade, with the exception of one factory, from more than 300 miles of what was "the Slave Coast," emphatically. She was this a mighty guardian angel, whose outstretched wings shielded more than 300 miles of coast, affording surer protection to its inhabitants than the combined fleets of Great Britain and America. And what she had done in her infancy, and her poverty, for she was poor, might be done, with our aid, on the 4000 miles of the Western Coast of Africa, where this horrible wickedness is perpetrated.

'Let me out.'

A correspondent of the National Era, writing from Columbus, under a late date mentions the following amusing circumstance:

As we came out of the last ward, some one remarked that one of our party was missing. He had taken another way to the reception room of visitors, but the circumstance gave occasion to the excellent superintendent, Dr. A. W., whose services and labors deserve the highest eulogy, to relate the following anecdote:

Some time ago, a party, composed principally of members of the Legislature, visited the Asylum. As they passed through the building, one of them a new member, lingered in one of the wards, and was actually shut in. His companions passed on and were out of sight, when he came to the door, and found it locked. He was alone with the insane! Luckily, they were not violent lunatics; but he did not know it, and was greatly distressed. He pulled at the door, and thumped and called. The lunatics gathered round him, and told him to be patient—they were all in the same situation—none of them could get out! "But I'm a member of the Legislature, and they've gone off and left me in here," shouted the unfortunate law maker. "So am I," replied one of the insane, comfortingly, "and they served me just so." Happily, Dr. A. W. heard the clatter, and released the poor man. Otherwise, so frightened was he, that another lunatic might have been added to the number of inmates, without the usual formalities of admission.

THE PULPIT AND THE WAR.—The right of the pulpit to discuss the policy and morality of the existing war with Mexico was nobly vindicated in a discourse we heard yesterday. "Some think," said the preacher, "that this matter of the war ought not to be touched in the pulpit. I do not agree with them. I think the question of wars and fighting was a question of Christian morality some time previous to its becoming a question of American politics. My right to it is prior to that of the politician, and I shall not waive my right. Must the pulpit abandon one of its legitimate subjects, because you choose to carry it to the polls? Why, one of these days some Administration, by accident or design, for policy or by a blunder, may take ground that the Christian religion ought to be suppressed."

Instantly a great party—whichever party happens to be in power—will carry the question to the polls—so strong is the instinct of party allegiance—and then, forsooth, the pulpit must be silent, because it is a political question! My pulpit will not be silent on moral questions, then or now—as long as I have the faculty of moral discrimination. I speak against the war to-day because I set to myself the task of pleading the cause of the poor, who have got to bear the burthen ultimately. We trust that Gov. Dana of Maine will weigh the force of these remarks before he pens another Thanksgiving Proclamation. The clergymen, (if there were any) who succumbed to his recommendations; must have been of an accommodating spirit as the country manager, who announced the performance of the tragedy of Hamlet at his Theatre, with the part of Hamlet omitted "lyrical part."

POSTHUMOUS GLORY.—We find the following paragraph in the Post: "A good story is told of Gen. Lane of Indiana. At the battle of Buena Vista, when the Indiana regiment retreated, the general tried every means to get them to return. Becoming enthusiastic, he appealed to them as 'they loved their native State, to do their duty.' 'Come now,' said he, and rush into the thickest of the fight. 'I'll lead you, and only think how glorious it will look in history to have it said that the whole Indiana regiment was cut to pieces.'"

This was stolen from either Hook or Hood (we forget which) who said it in relation to George the Fourth. Why should a man put himself to the trouble of defeating a conundrum to get a gold pencil? Why not steal the pencil itself?—Louisville Journal.

A punster waited several hours at the door of a Mr. Snow in the midst of a heavy shower, in order to say to him, when he came out, "Hail, Mr. Snow! if you go out in the rain you will certainly be mit."

Curiosity of Politics.

Mr. GIDDINGS, of Ohio Mr. TUCK of New Hampshire, and Mr. PALFREY, of Massachusetts, did not vote for Mr. Winthrop, because (as it is understood), he was not anti-Slavery enough, is one the most curious things we have ever seen in politics. We suspect, that if old Gov. Winthrop (of Princeton memory) were alive now, that modern Puritans would vote against him. We doubt whether Mr. Giddings will find this sort of voting, as popular in Georgia and Ashtabula, as he thinks for.—Cin. Chron.

CHOLERA—THE LETHRON—CONSOLATIONS.—The French papers say that the Cholera, which is advancing towards Western Europe, exhibits a great mitigation of character, and is far less fatal in its effects than its predecessors. The Courier des Etats Unis publishes, from the Gazette des Hopitaux, the statement of Dr. Brun-Taron, Surgeon in the Ottoman army, who, in 1837, was seized with the Cholera, and who having no medicine at hand but Sulphuric Ether, (the Lethron) expired freely of it, and sank into a calm sleep, from which he awoke weak, but free from disease. Being then unacquainted with the properties of Ether, he had ascribed the recovery to a caprice of Nature. Other experiments recently made establish the salutary influence of the Lethron.

THE SLAVEHOLDERS in the United States number but about 250,000, in a population of about 15,000,000, and this quarter of a million, or rather some few of the whole number (for all are not so unreasonable), threaten to dissolve the Union, if Congress and the great body of the people declare that no more Slave territory shall be admitted into the Union. The people of the Free States might smile at this threat with complacency, were it not that this body of men are attached to so many "Northern men with Southern principles," or Northern Dough-faces, who are but the hewers of wood and drawers of water to their Southern masters. New York set her mark upon this class of men at the recent election. So did Ohio and Massachusetts, and we trust the sequel will show that neither the quarter of a million nor their allies are to rule the country.—Pitts. Gaz.

WHAT TEMPERANCE SOCIETIES HAVE DONE.—There are now, says the Albany Spectator, more than 1,500,000 people in the United States who abstain from the use of ardent spirits, and from furnishing it to others; more than 5,000 Temperance Societies, embracing more than 600,000 members. More than 2,000 distilleries have been stopped; more than 5,000 merchants have ceased from the traffic. It is estimated that 30,000 persons are now sober, who had it not been for the Temperance Societies, would have been so, and that at least 20,000 families are in ease and comfort, who would otherwise have been in poverty and disgrace by drunken inmates.

IS A STARVING CONDITION.—Capt. Tobin, who is with the Texas Ranger, writes as follows: "We're in a starving condition out at the Texas camp—nothing to eat except beef, pork, bacon, mutton, hams, venison, bear's meat, snipe, ducks, plover, &c.; and for dessert, only oranges, apples, pears, peaches, and delicious grapes."

"After all," said Mrs. Partington, "I begin to think those persons are right who say that our government expenses might be retrenched. Just in the matter of powder and shot, for instance what a shameful waste!—Why, it was only last week that I heard a military man say that out of every hundred shot fired, only one took effect. Now what can be the use of firing the other ninety-nine?"

EFFECTS OF THE ABSENCE OF THE SUN AND AIR.—Dr. Moore, the eloquent and amiable author of "The use of the body in relation to the mind," says: "A tadpole, confined in darkness, would never become a frog, and an infant being deprived of heaven's free light, will only grow into a shapeless idiot, instead of a beauteous and reasonable being. Hence in the deep dark gorges and ravines of the Swiss Valais, where the direct sunshine never reaches, the hideous prevalence of idiocy startles the traveller. It is a strange, melancholy idiocy.—Many citizens are incapable of any articulate speech; some are deaf, some are blind, some labor under all the privations, and all are misshapen in almost every part of the body. I believe there is, in all places, a marked difference in the healthiness of houses, according to their aspect with regard to the sun, and that those are decidedly the healthiest coterie paribus, in which all the rooms are, during some parts of the day; fully exposed to direct light. It is a well known fact that epidemics attack inhabitants on the shady side of the street, and totally except those on the other side; and even in epidemics, such as ague, the morbid influence, is often thus partial in its action."

A Pleasant Remedy.—The following curious prescription was presented by a witty physician of Paris to the husband of a lady, who was suffering under melancholy and depression from the want of a fashionable wardrobe. The husband handed it to his wife unread, and requested her to send for the medicine. "Prescription for Madame de S—: A decoction of fifteen yards of velvet; friction of the shoulders with new Cashmere shawls; a tussie of several new bonnets, the whole mixed up with a vigorous air of vivacity and an infusion of pocket money to suit the taste of the patient."

THE COURIER says that the following conundrum took the prize of a gold pencil at a late concert of the Sable Harmonists in Cincinnati: "Why is Santa Anna like a wet day? Because he reigned as long as he could, and then mizzled."

This was stolen from either Hook or Hood (we forget which) who said it in relation to George the Fourth. Why should a man put himself to the trouble of defeating a conundrum to get a gold pencil? Why not steal the pencil itself?—Louisville Journal.

A punster waited several hours at the door of a Mr. Snow in the midst of a heavy shower, in order to say to him, when he came out, "Hail, Mr. Snow! if you go out in the rain you will certainly be mit."

The Lancaster Gazette.

GEORGE WEAVER, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

LANCASTER, OHIO:

Friday Morning, December 17, 1847

Christmas and New Year's Day.

We the undersigned, Merchants and Shopkeepers of Lancaster, agree to suspend business on Christmas, Saturday the 25th instant, and on New Year's Day, January 1st, 1848.

Maccracken & Galbraith, Smith & Tong, Miss E. Murphy, Reber & Kutz, C. Cox, Bury & Beck, Reimund, Son & Beck, Boving & Graue, W. Blasinger, W. S. Beatty, James M. Pratt, Reed & Baughman, J. C. Weaver, Kinkaid & Doty, Isaac Shoemaker, Gates & Cooper, Springer & Finkbeiner, Francis Lilly, Isaac Comer, J. McClelland, J. N. Little, John Work & Co., N. Young, P. Pope, John Edgerton & Co., Lancaster, December 17, 1847.

Failure of Mails.

During the past week, the high waters have disarranged the mail-service entirely—and we hardly know what is going on in the world around us. To be sure, we have a large share of rain, probably more than we are entitled to; but the clouds must, in the order of nature, be drained of their contents, and then the waters will fall and the mails will come. "In the memory of the oldest inhabitant," there has not been a time since Noah's Ark floated upon the waters of the "great deep" when we had rain for "forty days and forty nights" until now.

Ohio Legislature.

The Legislature has been engaged in receiving memorials, receiving resolutions and preparing bills upon a large variety of subjects; but no bill of a general nature has yet passed both houses. New Counties, the practice of Medicine, Dogs, Revision of the Constitution, Disposal of the Union, Militia Laws, School Laws, Capital Punishment, License Laws, Banks and an almost endless variety of topics is presented to the consideration of the Legislature, most of which we hope for the sake of a short session, will be summarily disposed of.

In the House, Mr. Shaw has introduced "a bill to lay a tax upon the town of Lancaster to pay the indebtedness of Lancaster School district No. 1." Mr. Olds, the Senator from FAIRFIELD and Pickaway, has been laboring to pass a law to "prevent the collection of debts."

Resolutions have been offered, declaring the unalterable and unyielding opposition of Ohio to the acquisition of any slave territory.

The Governor's Message.

Last week, we gave our readers the Message of Gov. Bebb. It possesses one great advantage—its brevity—and on this account, will be perused by every one.

We have no objections to the Message. It speaks of state affairs, presenting an abstract of the Governor's views, which, with one or two exceptions, meet our hearty concurrence. Compared with Folks' ponderous party paper, the Message of Governor Bebb is superior in every respect.

Foreign News.

Since our last, we have received foreign intelligence by the Britannia. The commercial distress, in England, appears to have reached its culminating point and has taken a change for the better. The prices of Breadstuffs and provisions are about the same as brought by the last steamer.

Ireland is still in commotion. The expectation of a civil war, in Switzerland, grows stronger. The Pope is still moving onward in his work of reform, disregarding threats and preparing for any opposition.

Owing to the failure of the mails, we have not received, in time for today's paper, a summary of the general and political intelligence. As soon as received, we will notice anything of importance.

Ireland, Switzerland and the Pope should have the warmest sympathies of Americans for success in the cause of civil and political liberty.

Our Candidate for Governor.

A few weeks since, we expressed our preference for Col. Collier over all the Candidates named. Since that time, our attention has been directed to Gen. Sanderson of this place. For him we now express our decided preference, and our choice is backed by every individual, whom we have heard speak upon the subject. Gen. George Sanderson is our man.

He is one of the oldest and most influential Whigs in the State. Through evil and through good report, he has never hesitated to bear aloft the banner of his party or his country—and in the most trying times, though living in a diet of decidedly *locofoco*, he has suffered his name to be used to hold together and add strength to the minority.

He is well and favorably known throughout the State—he has filled several important public stations with fidelity to the State and honor to himself, and can, in addition to the strength of his own party, carry with him a large number of personal friends.

From these considerations, we fling our banner to the breeze—inscribed on it, is the name of "a Whig, a whole Whig and nothing but a Whig."

Peace Sermons.

The Editors of the Ohio Eagle have embraced every opportunity to slander these Ministers, who considered it their duty, at the present time, to preach against War. A peace sermon, a real anti-Mexican War sermon, was delivered, in this town, on Thanksgiving day, and as it has not yet received a passing notice from the hands of the Editors, we beg the privilege of calling their attention to it. That they have heard of it, we do not doubt. It has been spoken of by almost every one, and cannot have escaped the attention of the Editors. We want no partiality in this matter. If the Editors esteemed it their duty to slander the Rev. Mr. Anderson, it is a equally their duty to slander the pastor of any other denomination.

We now call their attention to the fact—a peace sermon was preached on Thanksgiving day, in the Catholic Church—leading men of the democratic party were there and heard it, and the Editors of the Eagle have heard of it. Now, what is to be done? Will the Eagle men flinch from what they call their duty? Rev. Mr. Anderson's sermon was against War—this one was against the Mexican War.

Postage on Newspapers.

We are glad to perceive that Congress intends to take action upon this subject. We do not believe that there is an individual in Fairfield County opposed to the repeal of that portion of the law of last winter taxing newspapers with postage within thirty miles of the place of publication—at least all are in favor of graduating the postage that the country press will not be compelled to pay for the transmission of City newspapers. Every paper, that has spoken upon the subject, is in favor of repealing the obnoxious portion of the law. Then let Congress adjourn until the will of the people is carried out.

And would it not be well for the Ohio Legislature, following the example of those of New York and Vermont, to pass a resolution, recommending our Senators and Representatives, in Congress, to vote for its repeal?

The President's Message.

A portion of the Message, we sent in *extras* to our subscribers, last week—the remainder will be found on the outside of to-day's paper. The *extras* we obtained from the State Journal office; the whole of it, owing to some mistake, was not received in time. The transmission of the President's Message from Philadelphia to Cincinnati, with no hindrance of any consequence, by means of the Magnetic Telegraph, is the most wonderful feat of that wonderful instrument—and great credit is due to the Cincinnati press for undertaking the enterprise.

For the benefit of those, who will not take the trouble to wait through the lengthy partisan message of President Polk, we will give an abstract of its most important features.

He disavows any intention of carrying on this war for the conquest of all Mexico; he only wishes a slice sufficient to pay the expenses of the war and the claims due to our citizens but he leaves it to be inferred that future events may render it necessary, in his opinion, to take possession of the whole of Mexico and hold it—for what purpose is not definitely stated; but the President, doubtless, intended to leave his views to be so distorted that, at any future time, he may claim all of Mexico as indemnity. Two-thirds of his Message is taken up in an elucidation of his views upon this question and the remainder is devoted to the finances, the Indian Tribes, to Foreign Relations, to the propriety of constructing steamers by private enterprise but so under the control of Government that they may be used for War steamers when necessary.

The President recommends that a tax be laid on Tea and Coffee, in order that a less loan may be required to meet the expenses of the War—he speaks highly of the Warehousing System—the Tariff of '46—indeed any one, who has read a locofoco paper for the last year, has an exact idea what Polk's Message consists of.

Mr. Polk, in his Message, says what every one of his party papers have said, that the increased exportation of Grain and Flour to Great Britain and other countries resulted from the passage of the Tariff of '46. That a party paper should say this is not surprising; but in a President of this model Republic, in his annual Message to the "collective wisdom" of the nation, in the hearing of the whole world, under the solemn injunction of the Constitution, utter this palpable lie, is shameful and will cause its author and through him the country to become the laughing stock of the world.

We had intended to review this Message in some of its essential features this week, but will have to defer it. It is not the Message of a President—it is the low, miserable production of a demagogue, a third-rate Tennessee lawyer, who by a species of *chicanery* best known to the friends of Van Buren and Wright, has been elevated to a position, to support which with dignity requires the greatest minds of the nation. But experience is a wise teacher and the people of "yankoo land" require but one *poking* to have their eyes opened and their eye-teeth cut.

A Falsehood Exposed Anew.

The Eagle, in commenting upon Clay's speech, threatened to convict him of falsehood in one or two particulars. The Editor of the Union undertook the same thing, together with a host of smaller dogs, when the *Intelligencer*, in a brief article, thus exposes the "exposure," and by reference to the columns of the Union completely puts down every attempt to convict Mr. Clay of falsehood. We doubt not that that similar quotations might be made from every locofoco paper in the United States to expose the blunder. The fact is, the locofoco Editors are so "progressive" in their notions, that they never look back to their files, or they could not but discover their inconsistencies and blunders. The *Intelligencer* says:

"The Union," speaking of the Speech, of which it had seen the report, characterizes the following as "a gross and unfortunate error:"

"But instead of this pacific and moderate course, whilst Mr. Slidell was wending his way to Mexico, with his diplomatic credentials, General Taylor, was ordered to transport his cannon, and to plant them, in a war-like attitude, opposite to Matamoros, on the east bank of the Rio Bravo, within the very disputed territory the adjustment of which was to be the object of Mr. Slidell's mission."

But the error is on the part of the 'Union' and not of Mr. Clay. Mr. Slidell must have been considered as on his way to Mexico with his diplomatic credentials, so long as it was uncertain whether or not he would be received by Mexico in his diplomatic capacity. The order to General Taylor to transport his command to the Rio Grande was given before any information was received here of the result of Mr. Slidell's application to be so received. Without waiting for the decision of the Mexican Government on the question of receiving Mr. Slidell whilst that question was pending, and the Mexican Government imploring for time—that is to say, more than two months before Mr. Slidell demanded his passports from the Mexican Government—Gen. Taylor was ordered to march the army under his command to the Rio Grande, and simultaneously a strong naval force was ordered to be assembled in the Gulf of Mexico. It was not until the 15th of April, full three months after the order was issued to Gen. Taylor and twenty days after he began his march, that it was known here (in this city) that Mr. Slidell had finally been refused to be received.

Nay, the file of the 'Union' itself conclusively exposes its own blunder in this matter. The order to Gen. Taylor, as we have said, issued on the 13th of January. In the Union of February 10, the Editor informed his readers not only that Mr. Slidell had not been rejected, but that "he had been received with much courtesy, and welcomed in the society of the metropolis as an elegant and accomplished gentleman. He had not yet been received by the Government in an official capacity; NEITHER HAD THEY DECLINED HIS RECEPTION."

Bitten.

How often is it the case, that when men begin to retrench, the first article of expense they lop off is their country newspaper! This was the case of a chap up in Seneca county, who, a few days after, lost three dollars and two days' riding, by not seeing an advertisement in the newspaper that had stopped. He saw the editor, acknowledged the error and expressed it as his determination to continue the paper through life. To be sure this is looking the stable after the horse is stolen; but the precaution may save another horse.

How foolish it is for a man to say that he is too poor to take a paper, which is of immense advantage to him, and at the same time pay per year from three to ten dollars for tobacco and cigars, which, if anything, are harmful to him! "When will men learn wisdom!" When will they obey the injunction of Solomon and with "all their getting get understanding!"

We refer the reader to the prospectus of the "Ohio Cultivator."

An Apology.

We are compelled to stop our edition for the morning mails to press, without any eastern news. The mail has failed for several evenings and stage nor mail, due last night, has yet come to hand.

Congress.

The mail failures have deprived us of any intelligence from Washington. Since our last, the organization of the house has been completed.

R. C. WINSTROP, Speaker.
T. J. CANNELL, Clerk.
N. SERGEANT, Sergeant at Arms.
R. E. HORSER, Door Keeper.
J. M. JOHNSON, Post Master.

All Whigs except the latter. His election is due to some few fanatical, discontented Whigs, and for the honor attendant upon their conduct, we commend them to the loving embrace of the locofoco party.

The School Meeting.

The proceedings of last Saturday evening will be found in to-day's paper. It will be seen that a Committee were appointed to report to an adjourned meeting to be held to-morrow evening. We trust that every citizen of the town will be at the Court House, at that time. The object is one of the greatest importance to Lancaster and every individual ought to attend the meeting in order that a full and fair expression of the public opinion may be had. What subject is of more importance to American parents than the education of their children?

Freshets.

The late heavy rains have caused considerable damage. We have not heard from any section of the country save Chillicothe. There the Gazette says, fences, hedges, roads and it may be, creeks have been washed away. Between Pickens and Portsmouth, the culverts have been washed away, leaving channels in the soil from 10 to 30 feet deep. The Canal, too, will be injured. The Gazette adds:

"We trust that the damages will not run up so largely as now apprehended; but, at least, the loss to the Valley must be very great. The interruption of navigation, at this busy season, is peculiarly embarrassing to packers and others—but little pork, compared with the whole crop, in this section, having been shipped through to Portsmouth."

When the above was written, the word had not yet been.

Hocking, little Hocking, too, put on her "mud cap" and went lousing down like a small river. We have not heard what amount of damage has been done; but we presume that some of the "Huckle-berry knoe" have been washed away.

At the time of this writing, Thursday, 8 o'clock, the snow is falling fast. It has been getting the same caper all night—and if it continues, those little towns in valleys, Coshocton, Pickens, Portsmouth, will have the satisfaction of knowing that snow is likely to envelope towns on a hill as well as in a hollow.

Gen. H. COTTON, Esq. the able and accomplished editor of the "American Review," died, in New York City, a few days ago, of typhoid fever. Yet in the very prime of life, he was a ripe scholar, an excellent poet and did far for a life of invaluable service to his country, her politics and literature; but death has intervened and cut short his career. He was only 28 years of age.

The School Convention.

On the 3d. of January next the publishers of this paper intend issuing a daily. By that time the Telegraph to that place will be in full operation, and we doubt not that the citizens of the "ancient Metropolis" of Ohio will liberally support a daily paper. Right glad will we be to hear of pecuniary and political success attending the enterprise of friends Ely & Allen.

A Windfall.

Some person has paid the publisher of the "Lancaster Gazette" for two and a half years subscription, in advance! Bear up under your affliction, friend Hubbard, and with a little effort, we think you will be able to keep out of the hands of Dr. A. W.

By the way, does not this account for the candidate for presidency at the mast-head of the paper?

Dr. Olds seems determined to have the Legislature abolish all laws for the collection of debt and make the creditor depend upon the honor of the debtor. Wonder if the Doctor is in debt!

State Convention.

A large majority seem in favor of holding the Convention some time in January. That is the time. Let the State Central Committee delay the call no longer.

Drowned.

A young man, by the name of John Davy, was drowned, by falling into a lock near Baltimore on Friday, the 10th inst. He was engaged as a driver on the Canal.

His body was taken out and carried to Baltimore, where it was buried at the request and mostly at the expense of Capt. Thomas McKinzy, in whose employ he was at the time of the accident. A small leather trunk and a few articles of clothing, belonging to the young man, was left by the Captain, in the possession of Mr. J. S. Seal, of Baltimore, to be given to any friends of the deceased, who may call for them.

It is thought that the young man's parents live somewhere in the neighborhood of Mount Vernon. Mount Vernon papers please copy.

Last week we were taxed with postage on two letters—one telling us to discontinue our paper, the other sending us a "thanky" job. We pay no attention to such communications.

A broker, of the name of Geo. Miller, has committed forgery, in Boston, to the amount of \$80,000 to \$100,000. After the discovery, the forger fled, leaving behind him an interesting family.

The Pyramid of War.

The "Halls of the Montezumas" echo to the wild shout of victory! The cup of glory is at last full. We have arrived at the goal of our ambition. Let us stand upon the hill tops and look down upon the paths we have ascended, and the monumental pyramids by the way. Let us only gaze upon the "mortal remains" of the killed and wounded, leaving the crowded hospitals out of view.

PALO ALTO—400; MONTEREY—500; BUENA VISTA—800; VERA CRUZ CITY—170; CERRO GORDO—700; CHURUBUSCO NIGHTS—1100; CITY OF MEXICO—1600;

There now, reader, five thousand two hundred and seventy men struck down in regular battles, without computing the loss in skirmishes and from sickness. Besides this, we have created a national debt of ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTY MILLIONS OF DOLLARS, to any nothing of MILLIONS OF PROPERTY, lost and captured by the enemy! This is the first act of the grand drama, the new glories of which are yet to be seen, and unfolded as this lovely war progresses.—Jonesborough (Ten.) Whig.

Yes, this is the "first act" on our side—now let the Mexicans build their "Pyramids of War" and expose their loss of life, their weeping parents, wives and children; then the "first act" in this bloody drama, will be complete, and while humanity gazes upon the picture, let her eye rest upon James K. Polk—the author of all this expense and bloodshed—expense incurred and blood wasted for what? That a new element might be mixed into a party, fast tottering to its final end. Oh! bloody War. What awful scenes sometimes bring upon the world thy curse!

Miss Meeting.

In Wednesday's Ohio State Journal, we find an address from the State Central Committee to the Whigs of Ohio, calling upon them to meet, at Columbus, on the 19th Jan. 1848, in Mass Meeting, to nominate a Candidate for Governor, select State Presidential Electors, and provide for sending delegates to the National Whig Convention. We will publish the address next week.

We have not yet received our late Eastern papers. What news we have received from Congress is of little importance. The Senate has ordered the printing of 10,000 copies of the President's Message alone and 5,000 with the documents.

We have no news from the Sea of War, not even a rumor.

The cause of the detention of the mail, was the upsetting of the stage between Somerset and Zanesville, by which one young man was severely injured.

For the Lancaster Gazette.

Common Schools.

Mr. Editor: The statements made on last Saturday evening, of the condition of our Schools filled me with astonishment and grief. I asked myself can these things be, and believed them only upon the testimony of those who had seen. Surely they are not common, but very uncommon! Schools if even half of what was stated to be true. The citizens of this Town, I am confident cannot be aware of the true condition of things, or the remedy would long since have been applied. As they now are, they are a stigma upon the Town and hot-beds of disease and death. I am glad that public attention has been drawn to this important subject and trust that the result will be the removal of the evils under which we suffer.

Why shall this Town forever be behind all other Towns in the great work of education? Why shall petty bickerings and sectional jealousies divide us upon a subject of such momentous importance? Why shall "change" and "improvement" be resisted and hooted at, merely because they are advocated by some who did not draw their first breath in the Valley of the Hockhocking? Why will we persist in the wrong when we know the right, merely because the ideas of improvement were not the coinage of our own brains?

These Mr. Editor are questions I wish every man to put to himself, honestly and candidly, and if so done I have no fears for the response. Away, then, I say with the doctrine that we are to let this subject take care of itself and find if possible a "still lower deep"—away with the fallacy that we are to do as our Fathers did and thus close our eyes to all improvements, beside the narrow, contracted and disgraceful sentiment that no man shall speak or act unless born on this soil and but not least mark—I say, that man who raises that cry every in the mouths of demagogues "the Rich against the Poor."

If there are evils in our Schools, let every man say "they shall be removed." Let us no longer be unjust to our children, no longer cheat them out of their rights. Are they not dearer to us than all else beside, "bone of our bone and flesh of our flesh" and who will now flatter or be intimidated, by the cry of "innovation" from rendering to them their due.

It is our dearest privilege to educate them—thoroughly and correctly. Soon their season of improvement will be past—soon we shall be in our graves and they will be in our places and soon they will develop the result of a good or bad education. Now, now then is the time to act not stinging and with faltering steps, but generously and promptly.

Our children plead for it, our country demands it.

A FATHER.

Common Schools.

Pursuant to public notice the citizens of Lancaster, convened at the Court House on Saturday evening, Dec. 11th, to take into consideration the condition of the Common Schools of the Town.

On motion Geo. H. Smith was appointed Chairman and Wm. Slade Secretary. The following resolutions offered by H. C. Whitman Esq. and seconded by H. H. Robinson were, after considerable discussion, adopted:

Resolved, That the present Organization of the Common Schools of this Town, is defective and imperatively calls for a Reform.

Resolved, That a Committee of fifteen be appointed by the Chairman of this meeting, with full powers, either personally or through a sub-committee, to visit and inquire into the condition of said Schools.